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LIBRARY SCIENCE
LIBRARY

THE ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

FORMERLY "THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT"
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE A.A.L.

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THE ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

Official Journal of the Association of Assistant Librarians

(Section of the Library Association)

Edited by W. G. Smith, Finsbury Public Libraries

VOL. 49. NO. 4.

APRIL, 1956

Interview with a Predecessor

—Frank Gardner

I WILL NOT BUILD ANOTHER BRANCH—MOBILE LIBRARIES ARE SUFFICIENT.
FAILURES AT LIBRARY SCHOOLS NEED URGENT INVESTIGATION.
BRITISH READERS WOULD OBJECT TO SUBJECT DEPARTMENTS.
GENERAL BOOKLISTS ARE AN EXPENSIVE LUXURY.
WE CHIEFS NEED CRITICISM.

These were some of the provocative statements made by Mr. Frank Gardner when we visited his library at Luton. So many readers have expressed nostalgia for the *Assistant* of the 1930's that we decided to interview some of our predecessors who edited this journal at that time to see how they feel about library matters to-day. Mr. Gardner, who with Callander and Snaith made up the famous trio of stormy petrels, gallantly and courteously welcomed the suggestion that we call on him. The following remarks do not purport to be his exact words, but Mr. Gardner has kindly checked the script for factual inaccuracies.

Examination-ridden. The *Assistant* of the 1930's deliberately set out to provoke controversies and thrived on those it created. This policy caused streams of protesting, even abusive, letters, but the result was a liveliness that caused the *Assistant* to be eagerly read each month. Criticism is necessary to keep chief librarians on their mettle, and there is not enough of it to-day. Mr. Gardner could not remember, for example, any criticism of his printed publicity and absence of it could easily lead to complacency.

The thought of assistants to-day seems to be dominated by the examinations and few seem interested in the broader aspects of librarianship. The *Assistant Librarian* reflected this view and consequently, had become tame.

Public Relations. Did Mr. Gardner approve of the A.A.L.'s proposal that a Public Relations Officer should be appointed at the Library Association? He doubted the need for a separate appointment, but this did not mean that the present set-up is satisfactory. A much greater awareness is required from the L.A. Council and Officers of the importance of publicity and public relations. We should have taken the lead in the agitation against horror comics and increased postal charges for books, but failed to do so. Chaucer House should take the initiative in matters of that kind instead of jumping at a late stage aboard other people's band-waggons.

What about the idea of a Municipal Libraries Section? At first sight this seemed unnecessary, although he had not considered it in detail since it had not yet been brought to the L.A. Council. The Sec-

tions of the L.A. are designed to ensure expression of the views of special and minority interests. Was it not then absurd to push municipal librarians, the majority of the membership, into a section? He had never found inadequate the facilities for expressing a municipal librarian's point of view and considered the idea of a separate section to be cumbersome.

The present Branch structure works well and should not be disturbed. If a Municipal Libraries Section were formed, the A.A.L. would have to be abolished. This would be regrettable since it is a very good thing for assistants to have an organisation in which they can meet freely to express their opinions. Alternatively it seemed we should have two closely parallel sections.

Abolish Branches? Luton is a rapidly expanding town, but it will have to expand a lot more before Mr. Gardner recommends the building of more branch libraries. There are overwhelming advantages in concentrating most books and facilities at a Central Library, and it is far better to bring the people to the books in the centre of town than to attempt to take a complete service to them in the suburbs. Luton has had a mobile service for seven years, and has on order two large mobile libraries which will tour the new housing estates to provide popular reading with economy in staff, time and money.

7,000 Issues in a day. Luton Central Library has a superb site right in the centre of town, and Mr. Gardner's policy of bringing readers to the books results in astronomical issues from the one service point. The record is 5,680 in one day from the adult lending department alone, with a total issue of over 7,000. (Is this a record?). In such circumstances queues cannot be eliminated, but every effort is made to keep the readers moving at a steady pace. Dividing them alphabetically by name was tried, but has now been abandoned in favour of a long, sweeping counter with five assistants on duty at the incoming side at busy periods. The assistants stay put at their sections of the conventional Browne issue and pass the books to each other at the appropriate dates. Two more assistants are on duty at the out-counter.

Mr. Gardner is watching with interest Mr. Corbett's experiment with photocharging, but doubts if it would prove any real advantage at Luton. He is experimenting with pre-dated slips inserted in long transparent book-pockets instead of date-stamping, but it is too early yet to judge results.

On Saturday afternoons Luton employs schoolgirls as book-shelvers. They get two shillings an hour and apparently enjoy it. To deal with readers' enquiries, Luton readers' adviser, Mr. Marston and the Lending Librarian, Miss Moore, are both available at desks situated separately from the counter. Readers' Adviser is a separate post on the establishment with a grade of A.P.T. 11.

No Subject Departments. The Central Library is grossly overcrowded, but a new site has been earmarked and planning is proceeding for a new building. Would Mr. Gardner abandon the conventional reference and lending departments and adopt subject departments? No, he said, he did not think the public would take kindly to such an arrangement, and it was a fallacy to suggest that it was an unqualified success in America. A reader getting a novel and then wanting a cookery book would be justifiably annoyed if told that he had to go to another floor for it. Reduced issues would be inevitable. He emphasised, however, that his reference library is confined to strictly reference works. Books which should be available for loan are not hoarded there.

What's wrong with Library Schools? Four of Luton's staff are allowed leave at a time to attend full-time library schools; Brighton and the North Western Polytechnic being the most popular. Mr. Gardner is worried at the number of examination failures; assistants have a year devoted to study, yet often pass only one or two parts of the Registration Examination. Ought the course to be a two-year one; are the students at fault; or is there something wrong with the schools? This needs urgent investigation.

Luxury Printing. General booklists produced by most libraries are an expensive luxury which do not justify the expense because they are aimed at no specific target. Luton produces a general list of thirty new books each month, but concentrates most of its resources on more specific lists. A series of technical guides are kept up to date with supplements, while more popular lists include a "How to do Practically Everything" and "Bride's Guide."

Mr. Gardner complains of lack of criticism. If some of the above statements are not challenged by assistants, we shall think he is right.

Harry Marr

We regret to hear of the death of a past President of the A.A.L. The following tribute is by A. Ll. Carver, who served for many years with Harry Marr on the A.A.L. Council:—

"I do not suppose the name Harry Marr will convey very much to the present generation of assistants, but if ever the tale is told of the truly heroic endeavours made to keep the Association going between 1939 and 1948, his name will occupy an honoured place. Not that he was a war-time product, because his work for the Association, both national and at Divisional level, covered a period of well over twenty years. His actual Presidential year was 1947 when he took over from another Yorkshireman, J. T. Gillett. I well remember the little speech he made when he relinquished office, in which he told us that he was not an ambitious man either professionally or in Association affairs and that, having done what he could at a time of stress, he proposed to retire from the scene. I do not think I have met him since.

"He was a solid, four-square Yorkshireman and in his day was involved in plenty of controversy, perhaps the most famous being the Firth-Marr Memorandum, which is quite a story in itself. He was uncompromising in debate, as one would have expected, but his term of office did reveal the impartiality which the Presidency demands. Successively Chairman and Secretary of the Yorkshire Division, he was associated with the Divisional Committee for well over twenty years, as he was with the Sheffield Staff Guild; always a bonny fighter on behalf of the assistant.

"In those days the Yorkshire and Birmingham Divisions were especially prominent, and they frequently found themselves on opposing sides; in these illustrious debates, H. W. Marr took a leading part. True to type, he was a "transitional" member, and a number of our Northern colleagues took rather an impish delight in thus showing their individuality. His Presidential Address delivered at Cambridge reveals much of the man's outlook. He was of course one of the Old Guard, but nevertheless he has left us before we might have expected it.

"Those of us who knew him are glad to have had the opportunity of doing so and that, I think, is no bad epitaph."

Forcing the Reader

MARY WALTON

Chief Bibliographical Assistant, Sheffield.

THE REFERENCE AND SPECIAL LIBRARIES SECTION has published the proceedings of its last conference.* The four papers contain too much controversial material to be dealt with here in full, and so I have picked on two or three points of exceptional interest for these remarks.

Two papers concern foreign material in reference and special libraries—on selection by Dr. A. J. Walford, and on co-operative provision by Mr. E. Alan Baker. There is a tendency in both these papers and in the discussions which followed to exaggerate the size of the problem. Even with the present far from satisfactory provision of foreign books in some fields, does the research worker actually remain ignorant of efforts in other countries? There is a sort of grapevine among scientists, at least; and in the humanities, where the lone wolf is more common than the pack, journals like *The Review of Roman Studies* give such long reviews of foreign books that the earnest worker is not likely to remain ignorant; the strictures in the *T.L.S.* on any unfortunate author whose book shows that he has not read the latest Danish pronouncement on the art of a 17th century Italian painter suggests that he should have known these views.

Therefore, though it was right that the members of the conference should show themselves eagerly concerned with the possible ways of stocking Britain in general with useful foreign books, the limits of the practical do not seem to have been clearly kept in view. 329,276 books, 32,897 newspapers, 70,277 periodicals and 76,309 miscellaneous items are published in the world every year. Mr. Baker suggests, "It should not be beyond the collective resources of the libraries of this country to make sure that a great proportion of this output should be readily available to their readers." That would be too much. After all, most books, even scholarly books, in all countries, largely duplicate the knowledge common to civilisation. Co-operative schemes need only be concerned with original and significant work, which means that the problems of selection as outlined by Dr. Walford are of far more importance than those of "coverage." Given the means of choosing the significant publications, schemes for their provision would be of manageable size and cost.

Certainly the public library will find it difficult to justify the provision of foreign scholarly books on a large scale until there is some prospect of the public being persuaded to use them. Neither book purchase nor exhibition work has, up to now, had much effect. Dr. Walford suggests that the fault lies in the teaching of languages entirely through works of literature. The teachers might reply that it is sufficiently hard work to drive the average grammar school class through a story.

I assume that the papers are printed in the order in which they were delivered. If so, it is difficult to understand why the conference did not see that these two papers, and the resolutions arrived at in discussion, made absolute nonsense of one of their agreed conclusions after Mr. P. Casimir's paper on *Enquiry techniques*, which has first place in the pamphlet. At one session they were hearing of three series of Dutch abstracts and debating the accessibility of the publications of the *Academia Sinica*, and at another agreeing "that in the public library, reference work is done in lending and reference departments, and it is undesirable to split up the service into such departments. Readers do not naturally recognise the distinction, but come to accept it when it is forced upon them by library planning. All efforts should be made to demonstrate the unity of

the service, by publicity, by amalgamation of catalogues, and ultimately, perhaps, by altering the actual layout of buildings. The actual enquiry desk should be separated from the counter and manned full-time by qualified staff, but a separate quiet room for study purposes enables readers to use their books apart from the hurly-burly of the main traffic."

Librarians in research associations and universities naturally see little difference between "borrowers" and "readers"; their public is homogeneous. Among the general public there really is a difference. Most people come to the public library to get a book to take home to read; the rest want to investigate something—either a single fact or a large subject—and in the latter case, a quiet place (as the conference agreed) to do their investigating. There are, of course, those who require both services at different times, and most of them have sufficient intelligence to go one way or another as they are directed.

In one particular, libraries arranged on the conventional plan are sometimes not very helpful to those in doubt. Many entrance halls are insufficiently signposted; not merely the official titles of the departments, but words like "encyclopaedias" and "directories," which are what the public ask for, ought to be displayed. Otherwise, readers are no more "forced" into the correct departments than are passengers forced on to the right platform; if they arrive at the wrong one, does the station-master divert the train? Readers know what platform they want and only need to be told the exact location.

The person on whom this division is "forced" is the library planner, who is conditioned by such factors as size of site and danger of bottlenecks which are apt to be forgotten in the heat of conference argument. This conference was also, I am inclined to think, liable to forget that staff must be deployed to the best advantage. All experienced librarians know that every boy and every gal who comes into the library service is either a little lending assistant or else a little reference assistant, and the most economical and efficient use of the latter is attained by putting them into a separate department, with their bibliographical aids around them.

Nevertheless, no idea that might make for smoother running of the library ought to be neglected by the planner, and I should like the readers of the *Assistant Librarian* to do a practical exercise. Let readers plan a Central Library for an industrial town of 200,000 people, with single enquiry desk, amalgamated catalogue, reference books in the lending library, so that no inconvenience and unreasonable expense would be incurred, on the sort of site the librarian is likely to be offered in such a town, and send their plans to the Editor. Size of book stocks and stack arrangement must be made plain. Something really useful might emerge—either a revolution in library planning, or proof positive that when any such library is planned it ends up with a lending library, a junior library, two or three reference departments and the usual offices.

Mr. Casimir's actual paper has nothing with which any assistant of six months' standing in a reference library is not thoroughly familiar. The paper would make useful reading for the First Professional Examination candidate. How could it be anything else? While the knowledge of sources which the reference librarian is expected to have, and may ultimately attain, is wide and grows wider, the techniques of reader-assistance with which Mr. Casimir deals were made plain to me by my superiors twenty years ago. They do not change, nor do readers.

*Library Association. Reference and Special Libraries Section: Some current problems: proceedings of the Annual Conference, Lyme Hall, Stockport, April, 1955. 2s. 6d. to members, 3s. to non-members, from the Hon. Treasurer of the Section, Guildhall Library, London, E.C.2.

Your Letters

— Mopping up — Professional Conduct — Display
Humorous Articles — Subscriptions — Bookmen

VIRTUE UNREWARDED

(Dedicated to those charming, but misguided, Newark assistants).

Young Percy had his dignity,
He wouldn't dust or make the tea,
Parcels he wouldn't take to post,
Or make the Chief Assistant's toast.

Young Johnny was another kind,
Menial tasks he didn't mind,
At everybody's beck and call,
The nicest lad among them all.

In thirty years (we must be brief),
Percy's a Most Important Chief.
Old Johnny still a small-town toiler,
He's just gone down to stoke the boiler!

NORAH MARSHALL.

The February editorial, *Seven Mrs.*

Mops, reeks with trade unionism at its worst. Our Professional bodies should be proud of assistants who are willing to sweep the floors of their libraries. Has the Editor never seen a clerk dust his desk, or an engine driver sweep the footplate.

All power to the staff at Newark. Theirs is the sort of public spirit only too lacking in local government these days. And if they are young, then they have struck a blow for the much maligned youth of to-day. Of course the Editor would prefer them to spend their spare time working the Association into a closed shop. And if a library were to be closed because no one could be found to keep it clean, then what would he say? Restrictive practices! To your brooms assistants!

H. J. EDWARDS.

BLACK-LIST

While librarians are anxious to be recognised as a skilled professional class, they are continuing to undermine their position by applying for badly underpaid posts. Consistently they ignore the advice and the opinions of the Library Association and the S.M.C.C.L. Such persons, mainly within the membership of the A.A.L., continue to thwart the aims of those who are working for professional recognition. They are showing no regard for the belief, which they do not discredit, that librarianship is a skilled profession which should be supported by appropriate salaries. They are underselling those of their colleagues who show such a regard by refraining from applying for undergraded posts at a personal potential loss. Fair-minded persons might say that it is likely in some cases that economic distress is not far from the candidates. Nevertheless if they were prepared to boycott underpaid posts for a few months it is likely that better salaries would be provided by the majority of such authorities. A

simple demonstration of professional strength would cure at least the larger authorities (who would not dare to appoint tradesmen or clerks) of an undervaluation of professional librarians. It is important that the staffs in such libraries should also refrain from accepting such posts even if authorities attempt to "ram the blockade" by promotion.

A similar situation arose in two areas in relation to medical posts. Complete discipline in the profession led to the adoption of proper scales. We all believe ourselves to be literate in a broad sense. An extension of our reading to the classics even in translation might show us the qualities of unselfishness and co-operation which in my opinion are the personal hall-marks of a profession.

May I urge your Council to consider expressing itself to its body politic at the earliest moment so that we may know its views with no uncertainty?

NEVILLE DAIN,

Leeds School of Librarianship.

POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE

On numerous occasions during the past few issues of the *Assistant Librarian* I have been tempted to take up my pen to protest against those curious articles which have a seemingly humorous vein running through them. On reading *Instructions for Stock-taking* in the February issue, I thought that this one surpassed all others in a singular display of lunacy.

I am speaking generally when I say that I have never read such rapid outpourings in all my life. It passes my understanding entirely why people should see fit to make such a fantastic travesty of stocktaking and other aspects of librarianship. By all means let us have humour and wit in our

journal, but let us apply it in a truly literary sense if possible. These weak outpourings of heavy facetiousness are fit only for staff magazines if people who think that they have a sense of humour *must* write.

Perhaps in the near future we shall be treated to librarians' accounts of how best to write tickets or how to do discarding in 94 easy stages. Please, let us have some pride and dignity in our official journal.

D. W. F. PUGH,
Birmingham Public Libraries.

A similar letter has been received from Peter Sidebotham, of Manchester Central Library.

STICK IT ON THE BOOK.

If you will allow me, somewhere in between the belligerence of the editorial and the pungency of Council Notes, both of which I well enjoy, by avoiding both the skirmishing halberdiers and the laundry, I should like to comment on the now historic subject of book jacket display, savouring as it does of a past era when librarianship was "on the cheap."

No, Miss Wilden-Hart, we don't know enough even about the materials we can use for display. We have a soft-board mentality so easy is it to take off a jacket and pin it up. It's a matter of taste I know, but having run the gamut myself, and seen the work of many others in the abuse of these book protectors, I shudder to think of the results. We've cut 'em up, trimmed 'em, pasted and pinned 'em, stuck 'em on glass, made folders of them for the public to flip through, folded 'em to look like books, and, yes, we've had firmly in mind the presentation of jackets on a subject basis. We've filed the jackets for future use all right. I've seen them in many a library, classified and filed in their thousands, going back many a year, and all ready for the day when someone has an idea for a display—when some of the books have been withdrawn. It achieves no wash day effect

madam, rather the reverse.

I'm surprised in the discussion so far that no one has mentioned the various types of plastic wrappers, because with peg board, glass shelves and similar materials they have largely resolved the wrapper worries of Mr. Howes and Miss Wilden-Hart.

In short, keep the wrapper on the book in the best condition possible; it will help the reader more than it will help us and the result is cleaner and brighter shelves.

Last thoughts: the country's best designers in book displays of all kinds are employed by publishers, bookshops and exhibitions. We know this—we pinch their ideas, *but* see any jacket displays by them? Is not the display of various lists of books yet another attempt to exploit the stock? A different approach, but all our display work tries to create a demand which we may or may not be able to satisfy at once. Or why do we do it?

RON SURRIDGE,
Finchley Public Libraries.

TO MR. HOWES:

If Mr. Howes puts books as well as jackets in his subject displays, I don't understand why the jackets can't be on the books. But then, I could never

see the point in pulling wings off flies, either.

TO MISS WILDEN-HART:

Miss Wilden-Hart's letter is so cosy and complimentary that I am more inclined to pat her head than argue. Let me assure her that I am as anxious as she to "stimulate demand and act

as a signpost"—though where to I sometimes sadly wonder. On this theme, I hope Miss Wilden-Hart won't consider me ungallant if I ask what she means by the phrase "past best-sellers or other books worth reading."

JOHN WAKEMAN,

Dagenham Public Libraries.

LIBRARIANS AND BOOKS

The letters in the March *Assistant* about my "Administrator or Bookman?" would have carried more weight had my critics agreed between themselves.

In reply to Mr. Pocklington: the public interested in science, economics, bringing up baby, and growing cacti certainly *do* expect us to know about the books they want, although they do not expect us to be scientists, economists, nursemaids, or nurserymen. Subject knowledge and bibliographical knowledge should not be confused.

In imaginative literature, however, there is less possibility of systematic training in reader guidance. Either the assistant has read the book under discussion or he has not. Without the staff having read through the whole stock, this sort of guidance is bound to be scrappy, and based on personal taste rather than anything connected with professional training.

Being "grey" and reserved is, I feel, better than making much noise with overstatements and cheap cracks. But I recognise that there are a few librarians (for example, Mr. Moon and yourself, Mr. Editor) who can combine a generally high standard of good sense with the forcefulness of expression of the *Sunday Pictorial*.

I look forward with relish to my next drink with Mr. Moon, but I shall not need its stimulus to make me "accept the wild assertion that books are things which should interest librarians." For I asserted that loud and clear in my article.

PETER NEW,

Coulsdon and Purley Public Libraries.

Surely Mr. New has a point. That librarians should have to ask the borrower for some idea of what the various elementary scientific and technical terms cover before being able to trace books in the catalogue seems to me wasteful and humiliating. Couldn't we rather aim at a roughly equal level of acquaintance with each of the subjects covered by our libraries, not developing one disproportionately. That this has not been done can be seen, for example, from the percentages of candidates sitting for the more humanitarian parts of examination groups, such as English literature and Historical Bibliography. Even the elements of photography are enough to stump most of us.

It is idle to pretend that "Literature" is our most used section—Mr. Moon spoils his argument by his bright but confusing appeal for fiction—and whilst we hardly need to be able to evaluate specialised books, could we not take an intelligent interest in far more than we do. That the public expects us to know more about the 800's is more likely to be the result of experience; that the largest number of queries are for this section is certainly not my experience.

B. M. CHARLTON,

Branch Librarian, Lancashire County.

Just Published is the A.A.L. Guide to the First Professional Examination. Copies may be had by sending 2s. 6d. (3s. 0d. in the case of non-members) to J. S. Davey, F.L.A., Hon. Education and Sales Officer, 49, Halstead Gardens, London, N.21.

DON'T PAY UP

I would suggest to Mr. Sleightholm (Pay Up, February *Assistant*) that the community which we serve and the Association to which we belong also have obligations—to us. Might I further suggest that the community has failed in its obligations to the library profession in so far as it has failed to protect the rewards for our services from depreciation, and that our pro-

fessional body has proved itself incapable of taking effective action to prevent this.

In these circumstances, therefore, can members be seriously blamed in being dilatory in paying their subscriptions?

THOMAS M. DOUST,
*Reference Librarian, Stoke
Newington.*

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1956

To be held on Wednesday, 16th May, 1956, at 6.30 p.m., in the Connaught Hall, Y.M.C.A. Buildings, Blakett Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1.

AGENDA.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting, held in Chaucer House, London, W.C.1, on Wednesday, May 4th, 1955.
2. To receive the Annual Report of the Council, including the Annual Report of the Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Auditors for the year ended 31st December, 1955.
3. The retiring President (J. S. Bristow, Esq., F.L.A.) will formally hand over the office of President to W. Tynemouth, Esq., F.L.A.
4. To nominate and elect two Honorary Auditors, who, in accordance with Rule 5 (b), may not be members of the Council.
5. To invest Mrs. L. Martin as an Honorary Fellow of the Association, and to make a presentation in recognition of her services as Honorary Education Secretary.
6. To approve the General Rules of the Association as revised by the Council and printed in the *Assistant Librarian*, April, 1956.
- 6a. To consider the following amendment to Rule 6(b). First sentence to read:—

“The Council of the Association shall consist of the Officers of the Association, immediate Past President, representatives of the Divisions, 3 London and 6 country members (including 1 London and 2 country members under thirty years of age) to be elected nationally by ballot of the members of the Association.”

Proposed by: D. E. Davinson.
Seconded by: W. Davies and 9 others.
7. Any other business.

Presidential Address

In the afternoon before the Annual General Meeting, parties will be shown round the Newcastle Central Library (2.30 to 4.0 p.m.), an old building recently modernized, and are invited to tea (which is kindly being provided by the Newcastle Public Libraries' Committee).

The A.G.M. will be followed by the Presidential Address. This year's President, Mr. W. Tynemouth, refused to give your Editor a title for his talk, saying that he finds it more difficult to find titles than to compile all

the speeches he has to make during the Presidential Year! However, members who have read of his exploits in Council Notes will be in no doubt that an invigorating and entertaining talk may be expected.

Will members visiting the Central Library and intending to take tea please inform Colin Muris, Central Library, New Bridge Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, 1, by Saturday, May 12th. Lists of hotels and sketch maps of Newcastle may be obtained from Mr. Muris, who will also be able to arrange for a limited number of members to stay overnight with members of the North Eastern Division.

ASSOCIATION OF ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS (Section of the Library Association)

60th ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1955

In a year when the volume of work kept the Council late at every meeting, it is not surprising that decisions should have been implemented to reorganise and increase the offices of the Council and the Association. These changes were made the more inevitable by the retirement from office of no less than five of the Association's hard-working officers, Mrs. L. Martin and Messrs. W. F. Broome, W. S. Hudson, A. C. Jones and T. Mann. It is perhaps fitting that this report should begin with a record of the gratitude of the Association to them for their services.

Reorganisation for the future was very much a feature of this Jubilee year, throughout which the Council and the Divisions had before them the spectre—or the vision—of the proposed Municipal Libraries Section. The attendant dangers were examined, and re-examined, the year long, before the Council reached a decision at the last meeting of the year. We go forward into 1956, with all other Sections, in favour of this proposed new section, but determined that the work and activities of the A.A.L. shall be in no way reduced or interfered with.

Regularly featured on the agenda for Council meetings were items concerning posts at inadequate salaries, the grading of public library staffs, and the need to support trade unions such as N.A.L.G.O. Despite this black spots continue, and no successful method of pinching them out seems yet to have been discovered within the profession.

Confounding the prophecy of the last report there was a reversion in 1955 to the practice of combining the Presidential Induction and Address with the Annual General Meeting, which was held at Chaucer House on 4th May. The meeting sought to inject young blood into the Council with a proposal that three seats should be reserved for the "under-thirties." The final revision of the Rules of the Association may make this possible.

The sixth Annual Conference was held at Birmingham. The theme, *Selling the Library Service: Publicity and Public Relations* was so fruitfully discussed under the able leadership of Messrs. E. Ferry, F.L.A., W. Tyler, F.L.A., J. Wakeman, A.L.A., and A. Wilson, F.L.A., that a record number of resolutions was forwarded for consideration by the Council. A new, and successful, feature was the introductory paper given by Mr. E. Luscott-Evans, a professional Public Relations Officer. The Council is grateful to the discussion leaders and to those local authorities and librarians who, together with the Conference Secretary, Miss A. H. Higgs, A.L.A., of Birmingham Reference Library, contributed greatly to the success of the Conference. Mr. W. G. Harris, F.L.A., staged an exhibition of publicity material whose excellence was recognised by the Conference's request for a repeat performance. This took place at Battersea Central Library during a fortnight in the summer.

A year that started with hard words about the Library Association Council's attitude towards library legislation ended with the A.A.L. providing at Southport the most solid support for the parent body's memorandum on Local Government Reorganisation, to the chagrin of those who seem to expect this Association to be vocal only in opposition. Southport was also notable for a paper by Mr. A. C. Jones, F.L.A., on *The Assistant Librarian in the Community*, which maintained the high standard now expected of the A.A.L. Sessions at Library Association Conferences.

There were five Council meetings during the year. The following attendances were recorded:—J. S. Bristow, F.L.A. (President) 5; W. Tynemouth, F.L.A. (Vice-President) 4; J. S. Parsonage, F.L.A. (Past President) 5; A. Ll. Carver, F.L.A. 5; Miss B. C. Clark, F.L.A. 5; W. Howard Phillips, F.L.A. 3; H. Smith, F.L.A. 5; O. S. Tomlinson, F.L.A. 4; Miss E. J. Willson, F.L.A. 5; (National Councillors); Miss G. E. C. Edwards, F.L.A. (Bristol) 5; W. A. Smith, F.L.A. (Devon and Cornwall) 5; G. C. Tarrant, F.L.A. (Eastern) 2; W. James, F.L.A. (Eastern) 1; F. G. Sayer, A.L.A. (Eastern) 1; Miss E. M. Jahn, F.L.A. (East Midland) 5; D. Mason, F.L.A. (East Midland) 3; Miss L. E. Green, A.L.A. (East Midland) 1; P. A. Churley, B.A. (East Midland) 1; A. Bill, A.L.A. (G.L.D.) 4; Miss J. Binder, F.L.A. (G.L.D.) 4; A. G. S. Enser, F.R.S.A., F.L.A. (G.L.D.) 3; K. R. McColvin, F.L.A. (G.L.D.) 5; W. G. Smith, A.L.A. (G.L.D.) 5; E. L. J. Smith, F.L.A. (G.L.D.) 3; Miss M. Wilden-Hart, A.L.A. (G.L.D.) 1; J. F. Yeates, F.L.A. (Kent) 5; P. C. Gerrard, A.L.A. (Liverpool) 3; Miss E. K. Wilson, F.L.A. (Liverpool) 4; A. Jones, A.L.A. (Liverpool) 1; J. Brown, D.F.C., F.L.A. (Liverpool) 1; G. D. Williams, A.L.A. (Liverpool) 1; J. Green, A.L.A. (Manchester) 4; F. J. E. Hurst, M.A., A.L.A. (Manchester) 3; Miss A. H. Higgs, A.L.A. (Midland) 3; A. H. Huskinson, F.S.C., A.L.A. (Midland) 4; L. E. Taylor,

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YORKS.

A.L.A. (Midland) 2; Miss E. M. Beer, B.A., F.L.A. (North Eastern) 5; C. Muris, M.A., A.L.A. (North Eastern) 5; R. I. J. Tully, F.L.A. (North Wales) 5; C. F. Shepherd, A.L.A. (South Wales) 5; J. N. Harris, F.L.A. (Sussex) 5; J. N. Stebbing, A.L.A. (Wessex) 5; W. G. Thompson, F.L.A. (Yorkshire) 4; E. G. Twigg, F.L.A. (Yorkshire) 4; A. B. Craven, F.L.A. (Yorkshire) 1; Miss W. G. Forrester (Yorkshire) 1; W. S. Hudson, F.L.A. (Honorary Treasurer) 5; A. C. Jones, F.L.A. (Honorary Editor) 5; W. F. Broome, F.L.A. (Honorary Membership Secretary) 5; T. Mann, F.L.A. (Honorary Publications Officer) 4; Mrs. L. Martin (Honorary Education Secretary) 5; J. S. Davey, F.L.A. (Honorary Education and Sales Officer) 2; H. G. Holloway, A.L.A. (Honorary Assistant Treasurer) 2; P. G. New, B.A., A.L.A. (Co-opted) 1; R. G. Surridge, F.L.A. (Honorary Assistant Secretary) 4; E. E. Moon, F.L.A. (Honorary Secretary) 5.

If the Council is the hub of the wheel, the Divisional Committees are certainly the spokes without which the wheel could never cover much ground. On limited budgets they once again did a great deal of good work, arranging revision schools and other educational activities, holding meetings and publishing news-sheets and journals of varying degrees of ambition. Notable among other publications was the *Union List of Textbooks* produced by Sussex, one of the smaller Divisions.

PUBLICATIONS.

This has been a year of reprints and new editions, as a result of which our list has been brought substantially up-to-date. No new titles have been added, although good progress has been made with the preparation of a number of publications which will be issued during 1956 and 1957.

The biggest undertaking of the year was F. M. Gardner's new edition of *Sequels*, the first since 1947. Also published in new editions were W. Howard Phillips' *Primer of Book Classification* and W. C. Berwick Sayers' *First Steps in Annotation in Library Catalogues*. There was a revised reprint of A. R. Hewitt's *Summary of Public Library Law* and a reprint of *A Primer of Cataloguing* by Dorothy Norris.

We again record our indebtedness to Dr. A. J. Walford for the development of the "A.A.L. guides," of which he is general editor. The original edition in two volumes has now been largely superseded by a series of pamphlets which it will be easier both to use and to keep up-to-date. Publication of the new guides to the Final Examination, Part 1 and Parts 2 and 2a, was announced in our 1954 report. We have now added *A General Introduction to the Examinations and Methods of Study*, and guides to the Registration Examination and four more parts of the Final Examination—2 & 2b, 2 & 2c, 3a (iv) & (v), and 4c. Printing of the guide to the First Professional Examination was in progress at the end of the year.

The Diamond Jubilee of the Association was marked by a special issue of the *Assistant Librarian*, devoted to criticism and appreciation of the Association's work, which was followed by an extensive correspondence on future policy. Other features of the year have included an experimental "display discussion" (the result of a recommendation by the Birmingham Week-end Conference) and a short series of articles on the work of individual authors.

The great increase in recent years in the work of the Press and Publications Committee has resulted at last in 1955 in new arrangements for the preparation and distribution of publications. Mr. J. S. Davey, whose appointment as Honorary Education and Sales Officer, has already been reported, took over the distribution of publications in July from Mr. T. Mann, who had carried out these arduous duties with zeal and efficiency during two years of great activity. It has also been decided to appoint in 1956 an Officer of the Council to supervise the Association's publications, thus relieving the Honorary Editor of those duties. In future the Honorary Editor will be responsible solely for editing the

Assistant Librarian. Mr. A. C. Jones, who has held the office for half a decade, did not seek re-election at the end of the year, but the value of his experience and advice will still be available to the Council in 1956, when he returns as a National Councillor.

EDUCATION

1955 again saw a heavy demand for correspondence courses. An increasing number of students are finding the A.A.L. Courses more useful than other means of part-time study, owing to the impermanence of some local oral classes, and because courses are offered in some specialist subjects, tuition for which is not always available elsewhere. During the year 1,277 courses were arranged, 284 being revision courses and 993 full-length, the whole covering 21 sections of the syllabus. Three new courses were offered: namely, for the First Professional Examination, Final Part 2b (University Libraries) and Final Part 3a (v) (English Literature from 1900).

During the year we welcomed the following to our panel of tutors: R. A. Bangs, B.A., F.L.A., J. R. Barker, M.A., F.L.A., A. Chapman, F.L.A., E. V. Corbett, F.L.A. (Section Editor), J. H. Davies, F.L.A. (Section Editor), M. O. Dobson, F.L.A., D. W. Doughty, M.A., F.L.A., Miss L. M. Johns, B.A. (Section Editor), Miss D. M. Norris, F.L.A., C. A. Part, F.L.A., A. R. Pickering, F.L.A., W. A. H. Smith, F.L.A., R. Stokes, F.L.A. (Section Editor), C. P. Stone, F.L.A. and D. G. Williams, F.L.A.

Resignations were received with regret from W. G. Brown, F.L.A., H. C. Caistor, F.R.S.A., F.L.A., A. F. Carter, F.L.A., S. C. G. Goddard, B.Sc., A.L.A., C. B. Oldman, C.B., M.A., F.S.A. (Section Editor), H. Sargeant, F.L.A. (Section Editor), L. J. Shaw, F.L.A., and A. Wallace, F.L.A.

The changes in administration involved the Education Committee also, Mrs. L. Martin relinquishing her long and able secretaryship in mid-year to Mr. J. S. Davey. Mrs. Martin's service, which has earned her the rare honour of an Honorary Fellowship of the Association, to be presented in 1956, has happily not ceased entirely, as she will continue in an advisory and editorial capacity for some part of next year.

Mr. D. C. Henrik Jones, F.L.A., Librarian and Information Officer of the Library Association, reports that of the total number of 8,296 issues from the library at Chaucer House, 2,431 were from the A.A.L. Library section. The total number of books added to the stock was 1,070, and of these 134 were added to the stock of the A.A.L. section, which now represents 2,187 of the complete stock of the library.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Section increased during the year to 7,238, which is distributed among the Divisions as under:—

Bristol	..	..	236	South Wales	..	..	240
Devon and Cornwall	..	..	144	Sussex	..	..	140
Eastern	..	..	129	Wessex	..	..	227
East Midland	..	..	384	Yorkshire	..	..	486
G.L.D.	..	..	2147	Schools	..	..	260
Kent	..	..	211	Central	..	..	454
Liverpool	..	..	412				
Manchester	..	..	660				
Midland	..	..	619	Total	..		7,238
North Eastern	..	..	449				
North Wales	..	..	40				

Comparative figures over the last five years are:

1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
5660	6162	6490	6643	6637

The check on optings was made as at 1st July, 1955, and the number who

had opted by then, and who were therefore eligible to vote, was 5,766. Comparative figures were 5,627 in 1953, and 5,687 in 1954.

The distribution of the *Assistant Librarian*, which circulates throughout the world news and views of British librarians, equalled the record figure of 7,750 copies in August.

Towards the end of the year the Council decided that a personal letter should be sent to all new members of the parent body who had not opted for membership of this section. The letter sets out the advantages of membership and invites application.

The film, *Index to Progress*, which the Council sponsored, continues to sell and to be hired. In June a new documentary was completed, but the Council felt that some changes were necessary, and the film's release was postponed. It is entitled *Resources Discovered* and portrays the service which Public Libraries can offer to Industry and Commerce.

J. S. BRISTOW, *President*.

E. E. MOON, *Honorary Secretary*.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

1st January to 31st December, 1955

GENERAL ACCOUNT

INCOME.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To:			By:		
Balance from 1954 ..	980	9 8	Payments to Divisions ..	590	15 8
Capitation grants ..	2062	1 0	Councillors' expenses ..	564	13 2
Subscriptions ..	1	10 0	"Resources Discovered"	100	6 5
"Index to Progress"—			Library ..	110	0 0
Sales ..	29	8 0	Stationery ..	121	9 10
Rentals ..	7	7 6	Postage ..	46	9 6
"Resources Discovered"—			Conference ..	22	6 1
Sales ..	10	10 0	A.G.M. ..	4	4 10
Rentals ..	2	17 0	Clerical Expenses ..	78	5 0
Miscellaneous ..	10	0 0	Election printing, etc. ..	53	5 8
			Contribution towards		
			<i>Assistant Librarian</i> ..	500	0 0
			Miscellaneous ..	4	4 0
			Balance in Hand ..	908	3 0
	<u>£3104</u>	<u>3 2</u>		<u>£3104</u>	<u>3 2</u>

CORRESPONDENCE COURSES ACCOUNT

INCOME.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To:			By:		
Balance from 1954 ..	390	17 0	Tutors' Expenses ..	2309	17 5
Students' Fees ..	3065	2 0	Hon. Educ. Sec.'s Exes. ..	215	4 6
Sale of Notebooks ..	1	10 9	Postage ..	65	0 0
			Stationery ..	321	3 8
			Refund of Fees ..	10	5 0
			Standard Courses—		
			Compiling ..	53	11 0
			Editing ..	56	14 0
			Duplicating ..	180	3 6
			Collating ..	2	2 0
			Miscellaneous ..	17	9 7
			Balance in Hand ..	225	19 1
	<u>£3457</u>	<u>9 9</u>		<u>£3457</u>	<u>9 9</u>

BENEVOLENT FUND ACCOUNT

INCOME.			EXPENDITURE		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To:			By:		
Balance from 1954 ..	439	13 0	Balance in Hand ..	451	6 6
Interest on Nat. Savings ..	11	9 7			
Interest on P.O.S.B. A/c ..		3 11			
	<u>£451</u>	<u>6 6</u>		<u>£451</u>	<u>6 6</u>

PUBLICATIONS ACCOUNT

INCOME.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To:			By:		
Balance from 1954 ..	1033	11 8	Assistant Librarian—		
Sales	2907	3 6	Printing	1129	9 5
Assistant Librarian—			Distribution	251	0 11
Subscriptions ..	71	3 10	Stationery	84	19 3
Advertising ..	573	15 0	Royalties	309	0 4
Cont. from General			Distribution	102	11 10
Account	500	0 0	Postages	110	19 2
Miscellaneous		15 0	Advertising	13	10 0
			Insurance		5 0 3
	<u>£5086</u>	<u>9 0</u>	Printing new Publications	2391	19 0
			Clerical Expenses ..	108	2 0
			Miscellaneous	29	3 2
			Balance in Hand ..	533	13 4
				<u>£5086</u>	<u>9 0</u>

All the above statements audited and found correct.

(Signed) R. J. ENSING,
M. C. G. WISE,

Hon. Auditors.

W. S. HUDSON, *Hon. Treasurer.*

OFFICERS OF THE A.A.L., 1956

- PRESIDENT: W. Tynemouth, F.L.A., Central Library, Newcastle upon Tyne.
 VICE-PRESIDENT: Miss E. J. Willson, F.L.A., Central Library,
 Hammersmith, W.6.
 HON. SECRETARY: E. E. Moon, F.L.A., Central Library, Kensington High Street,
 London, W.8.
 HON. TREASURER: H. G. Holloway, A.L.A., Public Library, Eastbourne.
 HON. EDITOR: W. G. Smith, F.L.A., Central Library, Finsbury, E.C.1.
 HON. SOLICITORS: Messrs. Metcalfe, Copeman & Pettefar,
 3 and 4, Clement's Inn, W.C.2.

OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

- EDUCATION AND SALES: J. S. Davey, F.L.A., 49, Halstead Gardens, Winchmore
 Hill, London, N.21.
 PUBLICATIONS: P. G. New, B.A., F.L.A., Branch Library, Sanderstead Hill, South
 Croydon.
 MEMBERSHIP: Miss R. J. Ensing, Central Library, Kensington High Street,
 London, W.8.
 ASSISTANT SECRETARY: R. G. Surridge, F.L.A., North Finchley Library,
 Ravensdale Avenue, London, N.12.

ASSOCIATION OF ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS

(Section of the Library Association).

Revised General Rules

1. NAME.

The Association shall be called the Association of Assistant Librarians (Section of the Library Association), and is hereinafter referred to as "The Association."

2. OBJECTS.

Its objects shall be to promote the professional, educational and social interests of its members by the reading of papers, by discussions, by publication, by tuition, by meetings of a social character, and in such other ways as may be approved by the Council. Its objects shall also be to safeguard and improve the welfare and working conditions of its members.

3. MEMBERS.

(a) All personal members of the Library Association shall be eligible for election as members.

(b) Application for membership shall be made upon the prescribed form.

(c) The Association shall have power to expel without stating the reason therefor, at the Annual General Meeting, or at any Special General Meeting, any member after due notice and full report from the Council.

(d) The Council may elect as Honorary Fellows persons who have rendered distinguished service to the Association.

4. MANAGEMENT.

(a) The affairs of the Association shall be managed by a Council, constituted as hereinafter provided, in accordance with these Rules. Matters not provided for in the Rules shall be dealt with in such manner as the Council shall deem expedient. Matters on the agenda for an Annual or Special General Meeting deemed to be of a contentious nature by not less than one-third of the Council voting or by one-third of those present and voting at an Annual or Special General Meeting shall be decided by ballot of the whole Association.

(b) Report—The Council shall prepare an annual report of its proceedings and of the activities of the Association generally for submission to the Annual General Meeting. Such report shall be circulated to all members not less than five days before the Annual General Meeting.

5. FINANCE.

(a) Subscriptions—Ordinary members of the Library Association shall pay no subscriptions to the Association. Persons in membership of the Association prior to 1st January, 1930, and not having since become full members of the Library Association (known as Transitional Members of the Library Association), may continue in membership on paying 7s. due annually on the 1st January in each year, to the Honorary Treasurer of the Association. Transitional Members attached to a Division shall pay their subscriptions to the Divisional Honorary Treasurer on behalf of the Honorary Treasurer of the Association. A Transitional Member being twelve months in arrears with the subscription shall cease membership after due notice and warning. A Transitional Member wishing to resign must give due notice in writing to the Honorary Secretary of the Association or of the Division to which he is attached before the 31st December in each year, otherwise he will be held liable for the following year's subscription.

(b) Auditors—Two members of the Association, not being members of the

Council, shall be elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting to audit the accounts of the Association for the current year. In the event of either or both being unable to fulfil their duties at the time of the audit, then the Council shall nominate one or two members, as the case may be, not being members of the Council, to fill the vacancy or vacancies.

(c) Councillors' and Representatives' Expenses—Members of the Council attending meetings of the Council or of its Committees may claim from the Honorary Treasurer of the Association the cost of their third-class rail fare to and from the place of meeting and such other expenses as may be deemed expedient. Members attending meetings and conferences as representatives of the Council may receive a travelling and subsistence allowance from the Honorary Treasurer of the Association in accordance with a scale approved by the Council. The Honorary Treasurer shall pay such clerical expenses to officers as the Council may from time to time decide.

(d) Financial Report.—The Honorary Treasurer of the Association shall prepare and submit on behalf of the Council an audited statement of the finances of the Association to the Annual General Meeting. Such statement to be circulated to all members at least five days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

(e) Payments to Divisions—The Council will allocate each year and the Honorary Treasurer will pay such sums to Divisions as may from time to time be determined for the sole purpose of furthering the objects of the Association.

(f) Divisional Financial Reports—Every Divisional Honorary Treasurer shall transmit, during the first two months of each year, to the Honorary Treasurer of the Association, an audited statement of the finances of the Division for submission to the Council.

(g) Benevolent Fund—The Association shall maintain a Benevolent Fund for the relief of members or their dependents in urgent cases of need arising from sickness, death, or other causes. The Fund shall be governed by such rules as the Council may from time to time decide.

6. OFFICERS AND COUNCIL.

(a) Officers—The Officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and an Honorary Editor. The Vice-President shall succeed the President, and shall be a member of the Association nominated by the Council. The remaining officers shall be elected by a ballot of the Association.

(b) Council—The Council of the Association shall consist of the Officers of the Association, immediate Past President, representatives of the Divisions, and nine members, three of whom shall be under thirty years of age on 1st January of the year of their election, elected nationally by ballot of the members of the Association. The Council shall have power to co-opt. The Council shall take office annually on the 1st January in each year, and shall meet at least four times during the year.

(c) Divisional Representatives—Each Division shall elect annually one representative to serve on the Council where the membership of the Division on 31st December previously does not exceed 350, two representatives where the membership exceeds 350 but does not exceed 750, three representatives where the membership exceeds 750, and one additional delegate for every 500 members above the first 750.

(d) Nominations—Nominations of members to fill the elective offices and seats on the Council must be made by two or more members of the Association, countersigned by the nominee, and submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretary not later than 15th October in any one year. A notice to this effect must appear in the official journal not later than 1st October in each year.

(e) Vacancies—A casual vacancy in the elective offices and seats on the Council shall be filled by a decision of the Council, with the exception that any

vacancy occurring within the last four months in any one year need not be filled.

(f) Officers of the Council—The Council may appoint such Officers of the Council as may be necessary to carry out the work of the Council, and may co-opt them to the Council under Rule 6 (b).

(g) Voting—Co-opted members of the Council or of Committees shall have no voting powers on the Council, but may vote in Committees to which they have been appointed.

7. MEETINGS.

(a) There shall be an Annual Meeting of the Association fixed to take place early in each year. Preliminary notice of the Annual Meeting shall be given not less than six weeks before the date fixed. Notices of motion for this meeting must be submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretary of the Association within fourteen days of the publication of the notice.

(b) Special general meetings shall be called on the signed requisition of one hundred members of the Association, such meetings to be held within six weeks from the date of receipt by the Honorary Secretary of such requisition. Special meetings may also be called by the Council.

8. DIVISIONS.

(a) Formation and Objects—Divisions of the Association may be formed for the promotion locally of the objects of the Association. The promotion of objects of the Association of a national interest shall be reserved to the Council. The Council shall decide the area to be covered by a proposed Division. Applications for the formation of a Division must be made in writing to the Council for its consideration, and must be signed by not less than twenty-five members in the proposed area.

(b) Rules—The Divisions shall be governed by the Rules of the Association and model Divisional Rules formulated for local government. Proposed amendments thereto must be deposited with the Honorary Secretary of the Association for approval by the Council, and shall not take effect until approved.

(c) Sub-Divisions—A Division may form Sub-Divisions within the area of the Division for the purpose of holding meetings and local activities. A Sub-Division shall be governed by the Rules of the Division and of the Association.

(d) Dissolution—In the event of any Division lapsing into dissolution, no dissolution shall be deemed complete until the Divisional Committee shall have submitted a satisfactory report and financial statement to the Council, and have handed over to the Honorary Treasurer of the Association any funds and other assets in the possession of the Divisional Honorary Treasurer.

9. MISCELLANEOUS.

(a) Official Journal—An official journal shall be published and issued free of charge to all members of the Association. A notice signed by the Honorary Secretary in accordance with the Rules of the Association or on the instruction of the Council and published in the official journal shall be deemed to be an official notice. The journal may be sold to subscribers at a price to be determined by the Council.

(b) Library—The Association shall maintain a library of professional literature, which shall be governed by such rules as the Council may from time to time determine.

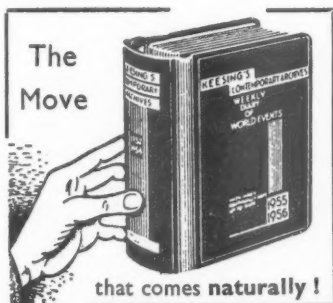
(c) Amendments to Rules—Amendments to these Rules, of which six weeks' notice must be given in writing to the Honorary Secretary, shall be made only at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting called for that purpose. A notice of a proposed amendment must be signed by at least ten members of the Association, and no amendment shall be deemed carried except by two-thirds of those present and voting. A notice of an amendment proposed

by the Council need be signed only by the President and the Honorary Secretary on behalf of the Council.

10. DEFINITIONS.

(a) Year—The expression "year" or "financial year" in these Rules means the period of twelve months beginning the 1st January and ending on the 31st December.

(b) Member—A personal member of the Library Association who has complied with Rules 3(a) and 3(b). (N.B.—It is impossible under these Rules and Rule 10(a) to claim membership if the subscription to the Library Association has not been paid. Option is valid only until the 31st December each year. The Association may continue to supply the official journal, permit attendance at meetings, and extend other facilities to persons in membership on December 31st, but these privileges cannot be claimed as of right unless and until the current subscription is paid and the Library Association informed of the decision to opt.).



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